

REAP Region 11 – Des Moines Assembly Summary

February 21, 2006

Attendance: 50 Local Chair: None

Preferred projects by county

Boone:

Protecting and enhancing natural habitat.
Connecting trails.
Ecotourism.
Natural resource inventory.
Recreational opportunities for ATVs.

Dallas:

Protection of natural resources through land acquisition and preservation.
Create positive economic impacts through quality natural areas and improved quality of life.
Trails, they provide habitat, natural resource areas and economic development.
Environmental education to build awareness.

Jasper:

Water quality improvements at Mariposa Lake and Rock Creek State Park.
Chic Valley Trail maintenance.

Marion:

Conservation education.
Interpretive signage for roadside vegetation.
Water quality improvements.
Trails: including connecting the rails to trails project near Pella to Red Rock Lake and horse trails.

Polk:

Land acquisition and open space protection.
Water quality and conservation.
Trail acquisition and development.
Roadside vegetation, conservation education and habitat restoration.

Story:

Land acquisition

Expand wildlife areas in central Iowa.

Completion of trail system in Story county and connect these trails to other counties to provide economic benefits.

Environmental education for all ages.

REAP Improvements

Boone:

REAP County Committee needs a purpose/goal. A five-year plan needs to be developed.

REAP needs sustainable funding through a portion of the sales tax.

Dallas:

REAP County Committee is going to start meeting twice a year instead of once.

REAP needs more funding. This can be done through a letter writing campaign, personal contact with our legislators and by putting on a REAP tour for legislators as well as the public.

Jasper:

REAP County Committee has not met for several years but would like to reconvene.

A trust fund is necessary for project maintenance.

Marion:

The public needs to be made aware of the REAP County Committee. Encourage a variety of people to participate in the committee. The committee should have quarterly meetings to select projects and follow-through.

REAP needs more funding. This can be accomplished through cooperative fundraising between conservation organizations and a portion of the state sales tax needs to go to REAP.

Polk:

The public needs to be informed of the REAP County Committee.

REAP needs full funding. This can be done by taxing outdoor goods, a real estate transfer tax, license plates and park user permits.

Story:

REAP County Committee met last year and would like to start having quarterly meetings.

The public needs to be encouraged to participate.

Delegates to REAP Congress
To be held July 15, 2006 in Des Moines

Boone:

Molly Ketchum
Alternate: Mark Snopek

Dallas:

Jeanette Peddicord

Jasper:

John Parsons

Marion:

Alternate: Carole Rowland

Polk:

Jerry Pettegrew
Alternate: Don Sievers

Story:

Dave Van Waus
Alternate: Pam Helfer

Posters

There are posters which detail most of the REAP projects in your county in .PDF format. Please feel free to contact us for a copy of these files. You may use these files to print either 8.5 x 11 or 24 x 36 posters to educate county residents on what REAP has done for them.

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